

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ACCRA 01713 100245Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /067 W

-----100926Z 096345 /10

R 090930Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6872

INFO DIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 1713

LONDON FOR SEITZ

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, GH

SUB: GHANA CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY

1. A DAWN BROADCAST BY CHIEF OF STATE ACHEAMPONG, PARADES OF CHILDREN AND VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS, PROMOTION OF SEVEN SENIOR OFFICIALS, AND AWARDS FOR TWENTY-TWO OTHERS HIGHLIGHTED MAR 7 CELEBRATIONS OF TWENTY YEARS OF GHANAIAIN INDEPENDENCE.

2. IN BROADCAST ACHEAMPONG STRESSED GHANA'S COMMITMENT TO LIBERATING REMAINING POCKETS OF COLONIALISM AND IMPERIALISM IN AFRICA. HE REITERATED THAT IDEA OF UNION GOVT WAS NOT SUGGESTED BY SMC TO FORCE A SYSTEM OF GOVT ON PEOPLE OF GHANA, BUT WAS DESIGNED TO UNITE PEOPLE RATHER THAN DIVIDE THEM. OBSERVING THAT "NO SINCERE GHANAIAIN WHO HAS LIVED FROM PRE-CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ACCRA 01713 100245Z

INDEPENDENCE DAYS UNTIL NOW CAN HONESTLY SAY THAT OUR POLITICAL PAST HAS BEEN ONE WORTHY OF EMULATION." HE ASKED THOSE WHO OPPOSE UNION GOVT TO "EXAMINE THER CONSCIENCES AND OFFER USEFUL SUGGESTIONS FOR ATTAINING NATIONAL UNITY." ADMITTING THAT "MOST OF THE PROBLEMS FACING US...ARE ALL OF OUR OWN MAKING," ACHEAMPONG WARNED THAT "WE CANNOT LOOK TO GOVT ALONE

TO CHECK THE ABUSES," AND URGED A "POLITICAL AND SOCIAL MOBILIZATION OF THE WHOLE COUNTRY" TO CONTROL SABOTEURS, HOARDERS, SMUGGLERS AND OTHER NATION WRECKERS.

3. FIVE SMC MEMBERS, ONE NRC COMMISSIONER AND THE COMMANDANT OF ARMED FORCES STAFF COLLEGE WERE PROMOTED. CHIEF OF DEFENSE STAFF AKUFFO WAS MADE LT GEN; AIR FORCE COMMANDER BOAKYE, ARMY COMMANDER KOTEL, AND BORDER GUARD COMMANDER UTUKA ALL BECAME MAJ GENS; AND NAVY COMMANDER DZANG WAS PROMOTED TO REAR ADMIRAL. IN THE NRC, COMMISSIONER FOR ECONOMIC PLANNING GARDINER WAS MADE AN "HONORARY COLONEL." FINALLY, STAFF COLLEGE COMMANDANT HAMIDU BECAME A MAJ GEN. ACCORDING TO OFFICIALS ANNOUNCEMENT, PROMOTIONS WERE MADE DUE TO "NEEDS OF SERVICE" BUT REALLY SEEM TO BE A CASE OF THE SMC PROMOTING ITSELF. ONLY SMC MEMBERS NOT AFFECTED ARE BOTH ALREADY AS HIGH AS THEY CAN GO--ACHEAMPONG, AS FULL GEN AND CHIEF OF STATE; AND ERNEST AKO, AS INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE. GARDINER RECEIVED AN HONORARY RANK FROM ACHEAMPONG, PERHAPS IN LIEU OF HAVING HIS ECONOMIC ADVICE FOLLOWED. HAMIDU MAY HAVE SPENT ENOUGH TIME IN GRADE AS A BRIGADIER AND DUE FOR A NORMAL PROMOTION.

4. NINETEEN GHANAIS AND THREE FOREIGNERS WERE GIVEN AWARDS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO NATIONAL EFFORTS. MOST NOTABLE RECIPIENTS WERE CHIEF OF DEFENSE STAFF  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ACCRA 01713 100245Z

AKUFFO, INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE AKO, CHIEF JUSTICE AZU-CRABBE, VOLTA RIVER AUTHORITY CHIEF EXECUTIVE E.L. QUARTEY, SECRETARY TO THE SMC FRANK BEECHAM AND MINISTRY OF TRADE AND TOURISM SENIOR PRINCIPAL SECRETARY B.K. OTOO. FOREIGNERS WERE: LAWRENCE ALFRED CREEDY, WALTER ESPOSITO AND REV. SISTER LE FROIS EVELYN JANE; NATIONALITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS NOT GIVEN.

5. ALL TOLD, ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS WERE LOW-KEY AND DULL. GOVT-CONTROLLED PRESS RAN SEVERAL COLUMNS REVIEWING PAST TWENTY YEARS AND WHILE THERE WERE ADMISSIONS ALL HAD NOT BEEN ROSY. ARTICLES CONCLUDED SMC WAS DOING A GOOD JOB, UNION GOVT IS NECESSARY, AND GHANA HAS A BRIGHT FUTURE.

6. COMMENT: AT THE MOMENT, FEW GHANAIS WOULD AGREE THAT THE SMC IS DOING A GOOD JOB. WE ARE ALREADY HEARING RUMBLINGS OF DISCONTENT OVER THESE

PROMOTIONS OF THOSE ALREADY FEEDING AT THE  
TROUGH AND DRIVING MERCEDES-BENZ, PARTICULARLY AT  
A TIME WHEN ACHEAMPONG IS CALLING FOR MORE AND  
MORE SACRIFICES TO BE MADE BY THE COMMON MAN.  
BLATANT CORRUPTION, GALLOPING INFLATION AND ACUTE  
SHORTAGES OF EVEN BASIC ESSENTIALS ARE THE STUFF  
OF EVERYDAY LIFE IN GHANA. THE FEELING OF "THEM"  
(THE SMC/NRC BRASS) AND "US" (THE REST OF THE  
POPULACE) WILL ONLY BE EXACERBATED BY THESE  
EXTRAORDINARILY INSENSITIVE PROMOTIONS.  
SMITH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS, CEREMONIAL MESSAGES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 09-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977ACCRA01713  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770082-0458  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** ACCRA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770380/aaaacryw.tel  
**Line Count:** 127  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 817a5ebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3170408  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GHANA CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PINT, PDEV, GH, (ACHEAMPONG, IGNATIUS KUTU)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/817a5ebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009